

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

Please amend the Claims as follows:

Claims 1 to 12 (Cancelled).

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13. (New): A System for withdrawing small amounts of body fluid comprising:
- a drive unit having a holder, wherein the holder is moved from a first position into a second position when the drive unit is activated;
 - a disposable lancing unit which has a holding area that is removably positioned in the holder;
 - an elongate capillary structure, wherein a proximal end of capillary structure comprises at least one capillary channel for transporting body fluid connected to the holding area;
 - a distal end of the capillary structure being suitable for piercing skin, wherein the distal end of the capillary structure is located outside the skin when the holder is arranged in the first position and inserted into the skin up to a puncture depth in the second position;
 - wherein the at least one capillary channel is open to the outside in an area which comprises at least a part of the longitudinal extension of the capillary structure; and
 - wherein the drive unit moves the lancing device such that after the lancing device reaches the second position, the lancing device is moved back into a collecting position, such that in the collecting position a section of the capillary structure located in the skin is shorter than the section of the capillary structure when the lancing device is in the second position..
14. (New): The system of claim 1 wherein the entire length of the capillary structure from the proximal to the distal end is open to the outside.
15. (New): The system of claim 1 wherein the holding area has a detection zone for detecting at least one analytes, the detection zone being arranged such that it can take up body fluid from the capillary structure.
16. (New): The system of claim 1 wherein the drive unit moves the lancing unit in such a manner that it remains in the second position for a time interval and subsequently,

the lancing unit is moved into a position in which the distal end of the capillary structure is outside the skin.

17. (New): The system of claim 1 wherein the capillary structure and holding area are integrally connected together.

18. (New): The system of claim 1 wherein the holding area and capillary structure are manufactured from a semiconductor preferably silicon.

B2 19. (New): The system of claim 1 wherein the holding area and capillary structure are integrally manufactured from a single piece of material.

20. (New): System as claimed in claim 1, in which the area of the capillary structure that is open to the outside has a channel shape.

21. (New): The system of claim 20 wherein the channel-shaped area has an essentially V-shaped cross-section.

22. (New): The system of claim 1 wherein the length of the capillary structure is in the range from 0.3 to 3 mm and the cross-section of the capillary structure is in the range from 0.03 to 0.8 mm.